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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Origin

Infos

ACTION: Amembassy TEL AVIV FLASH

INFO: CINCSTRIKE FLASH
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Amembassy CAIRO FLASH
USUN FLASH
Amembassy MOSCOW FLASH
USCINCEUR FLASH
CINCUSNAVEUR FLASH

STATE: 209253

131 Evans
S-Walsh

June 8.

1. Secretary called in Israeli Ambassador Harman noon/~~xxxx~~. Said he had just spoken with President and was instructed express in very strong terms USG dismay at today's attack on US naval vessel by Israeli naval unit. Said 4 are dead, 53 are injured at latest report. Ship badly listing. Requested Harman convey at once to Prime Minister our real dismay at this very serious matter. Said we consider it amazing that GOI motor torpedo commander could be unable to identify a U.S. naval vessel. We want GOI to issue very explicit instructions in this regard to Israeli naval commanders for we cannot accept attacks on our vessels on high seas.

2. Secretary said we appreciate speed with which GOI informed us this action had been done by one of its craft. This speed of notification in itself may have avoided very serious consequences in many respects.

3. Harman promised inform his government immediately. Noted he had no information yet from GOI on this occurence but had learned of it within the hour during call on Assistant Secretary Battle to whom he had expressed his great sorrow.

RUSK

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Drafted by:	Tel. Ext.	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
NEA/IAI:WDWolle:pas:6/8/67	4422	NEA - Lucius D. Battle The Secretary

Clearances:
~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~
S/S - Mr. Kelly
S - ~~xxxxxx~~ Mr. Shlaudeman

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